

# INFORMATION LETTER

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NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members  
Only

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## Canning Industry Represented in International Trade Study

The canning industry is represented on an advisory committee of business leaders who will assist the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency in a study of the financial aspects of international trade.

Senator Capehart (Ind.), chairman of the Committee, has announced that the study will be one of the "most intensive" ever made in that field. The advisory committee announced by him includes the following:

Stanley Powell, vice president of the California Packing Corporation, San Francisco, Calif.;

George Seybolt, of the Wm. Underwood Co., Watertown, Mass.;

Calvin L. Skinner, secretary-treasurer of the Tri-State Packers Association, Inc., Easton, Md.; and

Lucius Clay, chairman of the board of the Continental Can Company, New York City.

Chairman Capehart announced that these are among the acceptances received by the Committee, and that other appointments may be announced soon.

The study will cover many aspects of expanding international trade.

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## International Tin Agreement

The State Department has notified the International Tin Study Group that the United States is prepared, for the first time, to sit in on discussions that may lead to an international tin agreement.

The State Department warned, however, that the United States will not be obligated to sign or ratify such an agreement.

The United States' reluctance to take part in such discussions has held up negotiations since 1950. An international tin agreement, providing for export and import quotas and minimum prices, has been urged by several of the leading tin producing countries and tin consuming countries.

It is believed that the U. S. statement insures that the tin conference negotiations will be resumed this fall, possibly in November.

## Marketing Agreements and Orders on Canning Crops Proposed to USDA in Survey of Opinion on Farm Program

Marketing Agreements and Orders on canning crops—with limitations on containers and style of pack—are under study by the USDA.

This was made known this week by True D. Morse, Under Secretary of Agriculture, who heads a group of top USDA officials who are reviewing recommendations from farmers and farm groups for revising agricultural legislation.

The marketing Agreement and Order program proposed to USDA would continue the use of Agreements and Orders to limit quantity and quality of marketings and, in addition, would cover processing crops and would regulate "type of containers and packs."

## Growers Organization Indicted

The Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice has obtained a grand jury indictment of a strawberry growers' organization allegedly engaging in certain practices in restraint of trade. The criminal action will be tried in the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Louisiana, New Orleans Division.

The defendant growers' organization, identified as the Louisiana Fruit & Vegetable Producers Union, Local 312, together with its officers, is charged with restraining trade in the interstate commerce of strawberries and other perishable produce. The charged offenses include, among others, agreements to compel and coerce processors to purchase strawberries only from members of the defendant union at prices and on terms and conditions set by the union, to boycott and picket processors who will not agree to their terms and conditions, to picket and boycott processors who purchase strawberries from other than members of the defendant union, and to compel and coerce growers who are not members of the union to join the organization by preventing such growers from finding a market for their produce.

Like practices are charged in respect to the purchase and sale of strawberries to handlers and parties other than processors.

The indictment alleges that, as a result of the combination and conspiracy, prices for strawberries have been fixed, processors have been pre-

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USDA has explained this to mean that the marketing Agreements and Orders would regulate container use and "style of pack—halves, quarters, and whether packed in syrup."

Mr. Morse summarized the proposals for revising agricultural legislation in a speech at Oregon State College, Corvallis, August 19. He said that there is a "high amount of agreement" among the reports received.

The "grass roots" survey aims at the development of farm legislation

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## Hearing on Olive Order

The Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, announced August 18 that the hearing which was held on a proposed marketing agreement and order program for California and Arizona olives at Stockton, Calif., from May 6 to May 14 will be reopened at a date to be announced. Decision to reopen the hearing followed the recent opinion of the attorney general of California that issuance of a federal order might force cancellation of the California state size and advertising marketing agreement program for olives. Some of the testimony at the hearing was based on the assumption that the state program would be continued.

Interested persons have until December 15 to submit additional proposals to the Assistant Administrator, PMA, USDA, Washington 25, D. C., for consideration at the reopened hearing. A notice containing detailed proposals to be considered at the reopened hearing will be issued after that date.

## STATISTICS

### Canned Fruit and Vegetable Stocks and Shipments

Reports on canners' stocks and shipments of canned apples, apple sauce, and sweet corn have been compiled by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics and detailed reports have been mailed to all canners packing these items.

#### Canned Apple Stocks and Shipments

	1951-52	1952-53	Percent change from 1952
	(basis 6/10)		
Carryover, Aug. 1	1,953,263	1,279,639	-34
Pack, total	3,388,249	2,560,319	-24
Supply	5,341,512	3,839,958	-28
Stocks, Aug. 1	1,279,639	178,495	-86
Shipments during July	268,935	129,404	-52
Shipments, Aug. 1 to Aug. 1	4,061,873	3,661,463	-10

#### Apple Sauce Stocks and Shipments

	1951-52	1952-53	Percent change from 1952
	(actual cases)		
Carryover, Aug. 1	3,497,089	1,474,654	-58
Pack, total	9,380,851	9,291,512	-1
Supply	12,877,940	10,766,166	-16
Stocks, Aug. 1	1,474,654	198,363	-87
Shipments during July	886,534	409,804	-54
Shipments, Aug. 1 to Aug. 1	11,403,286	10,567,803	-7

### Wholesale Distributor Stocks of Canned Foods

A summary showing wholesale distributor and canner stocks of specified canned foods, compiled by the Bureau

of the Census and combining canners' stock totals of the N.C.A. Division of Statistics, is shown below:

#### Wholesale Distributor and Canner Stocks of Specified Canned Foods

(Including Warehouses of Retail Multiunit Organizations)

	July 1, 1952		July 1, 1953			
	Distributors	Canners	Distributors	Canners	Sizes smaller than No. 10	Sizes No. 10 or larger
	(thousands of actual cases)					
Vegetables:						
Beans, green & wax . . . . .	3,588	2,453	1,663	332	1,419	244
Corn . . . . .	4,485	923	4,293	3,881	3,933	360
Peas . . . . .	5,796	4,740*	3,366	n.a.	2,955	411
Tomatoes . . . . .	4,558	1,727	3,238	4,959	2,820	418
Fruits:						
Apricots . . . . .	748	698*	569	n.a.	464	105
Fruit cocktail <sup>b</sup> . . . . .	1,379	3,631*	1,171	n.a.	1,508	113
Peaches . . . . .	3,633	4,071*	2,620	n.a.	2,324	296
Pears . . . . .	1,047	2,047*	964	n.a.	814	150
Pineapple . . . . .	2,749	3,979*	1,874	n.a.	1,699	175
Juices: <sup>c</sup>						
Tomato <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	3,164	5,305	2,468	6,233	2,412	56
Grapefruit <sup>e</sup> . . . . .	1,538	3,008	902	2,555	809	3
Orange <sup>f</sup> . . . . .	1,697	4,348	1,293	2,968	1,292	1
Citrus blend <sup>g</sup> . . . . .	670	1,760	518	897	517	1
Pineapple <sup>h</sup> . . . . .	1,336	2,630*	1,148	n.a.	1,140	8

\* June 1 stocks; not available for July 1. <sup>b</sup> Includes fruits for salad and mixed fruits. <sup>c</sup> Data by can size in all juices are revised. <sup>d</sup> Previously published figures for "Sizes No. 10 or larger" were overstated due to inaccurate reporting of the 40-oz. size. <sup>e</sup> Includes vegetable juice combinations containing at least 70 percent tomato juice. <sup>f</sup> Canners stocks cover Florida only. <sup>g</sup> Canners stocks cover Hawaii and the Philippines. n.a.—Not available.

### Canned Corn Stocks and Shipments

	1951-52	1952-53	Percent change from 1952
	(actual cases)		
Carryover, Aug. 1	373,375	427,729	+15
Pack	30,188,540	38,212,332	+27
Total supply	30,561,915	38,640,061	+26
Stocks, Aug. 1	427,729	2,317,138	+442
Shipments during July	495,697	1,503,843	+215
Shipments, Aug. 1 to Aug. 1	30,134,186	36,322,923	+21

### 1953 Cranberry Production

Cranberry production for 1953 is forecast at a record high of 1,075,400 barrels, 36 percent above both last year and average, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The crop in each state is larger than average. Each is larger than last year except New Jersey, which is the same. Massachusetts has prospects for a record crop, and Wisconsin is expecting a record-size crop.

Following is the production of cranberries indicated on August 15:

State	1942-51 ave.	1952	1953 Ind.
	(barrels)		
Massachusetts	503,600	445,000	640,000
New Jersey	76,300	104,000	104,000
Wisconsin	156,800	190,000	235,000
Washington	38,030	30,000	49,400
Oregon	13,440	21,500	27,000
Total 5 states	788,170	790,500	1,075,400

### Pack of Canned Meat

The quantity of meat canned and meat products processed under federal inspection during the month of July has been reported by the Bureau of Animal Industry, USDA. However, this report represents only the supply of meat products canned during that period and remaining for civilian consumption. Total production, including quantities for defense, was 122,934 thousand pounds.

#### Canned Meat and Meat Products Processed under Federal Inspection July, 1953

	3 Lbs. and over	Under 3 Lbs.	Total
	(in thousands of pounds)		
Luncheon meat	9,944	14,790	24,734
Canned hams	228	6,276	6,504
Corned beef hash	2,785	238	3,022
Chili con carne	7,135	562	7,697
Vienna sausage	4,174	76	4,249
Frankfurters and wieners in brine	594		594
Deviled ham	691		691
Other potted and deviled meat products	4,739	251	4,990
Tamales	1,905	141	2,047
Sliced, dried beef	319	14	334
Liver products	118		118
Meat stew	3,291	64	3,355
Spaghetti meat products	5,229	154	5,383
Tongue (not pickled)	212	54	265
Vinegar pickled products	1,562	645	2,207
Bulk sausage	290		290
Hamburger	4,170	254	4,424
Soups	28,648	705	29,353
Sausage in oil	414	433	847
Tripe	224	1	225
Brains	317		317
Bacon	212	5	218
All other products 20% or more meat	4,641	224	4,865
All other products less than 20% meat (except soup)	11,491	1,366	12,857
Total all products	93,340	26,255	119,595

Columns do not add to totals shown in all cases since rounded figures are used. Amounts packed for defense are not included in these items. Total production, including quantities for defense agencies, was 122,934 thousand pounds.

### Growers Organization Indicted

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vented from buying strawberries from other than members of the defendant union, handlers have been prevented from selling strawberries and other perishable produce and from dealing with growers who are not members of the defendant union, and growers who are not members of the defendant union have been prevented from carrying on their normal farming operations in the Hammond area and from selling their strawberries and other perishable produce.

## DEFENSE

### Defense Mobilization Program

The President on August 14 issued Executive Order 10480, further providing for the administration of the defense mobilization program.

Executive Order 10480 supersedes and revokes a number of Presidential directives issued since the start of the Korean war, and reaffirms that all mobilization activities of the executive branch of the government are co-ordinated by the Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization.

ODM was given permanent status June 12 as the agency of government responsible for coordinating peacetime and wartime mobilization.

Executive Order 10480 gives the ODM final authority in mobilization programming and as certifying authority for accelerated amortization under subsections (e) and (g) of Section 124A of the Internal Revenue Code. The Department of Agriculture remains the claimant agency for food.

## PROCUREMENT

### Canned Beef for USDA

The Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, has announced purchase of 2,826,260 pounds of canned beef at an average price of 38.76 cents per pound, f.o.b. plant, during the week of August 10. The purchases were made with Section 32 funds. This raises total USDA purchases of canned beef to 34,309,260 pounds.

The USDA contemplates continued heavy purchases of beef products in carrying out plans to acquire approximately 120 million pounds of canned beef and quantities of hamburger and carcass beef. In line with these plans, the USDA will accept offers next week on these three products and also on frozen mutton.

### Canned Peaches for USDA

The Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, announced August 13 that offers have been accepted for 794,614 cases of canned clingstone peaches, including 401,614 cases of 24 2 1/2's at prices ranging from \$1.597 to \$4.90 per case, and 393,000 cases of 6 10's at prices ranging from \$4.205 to \$4.55 per case. In

addition, 37,000 cases of canned free-stone peaches were purchased at \$4.737 per case of 24 2 1/2's.

These acceptances complete the purchase of this product, PMA said.

### Canning Industry Represented

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Among the problems to be studied are currency convertibility, restrictions on imports, and the effects of nationalized industries on commercial trade.

The work of the advisory committee will supplement that of the 17-man Commission on Foreign Economic Policy, with which it will cooperate in various phases of the study.

## LABOR

### Mexican Farm Labor Program

Present arrangements for importing Mexican nationals for work in agriculture may have to be changed so as to prevent illegal entry.

Attorney General Brownell said this week that he intends to formulate a coordinated program for dealing with the problem of Mexican nationals who enter the United States illegally to work on farms. The increasing number of Mexicans entering California illegally has raised "a law enforcement problem of the first magnitude" in that state, he said.

The Attorney General said that he plans to confer with the Mexican Ambassador before making any proposals for changing the present arrangements for importing Mexican farm labor.

Secretary of Labor Durkin announced that the Harlingen and Eagle Pass reception centers would be consolidated, with future contracting activities centered at Eagle Pass.

## TRAFFIC

### Trip-leasing of Trucks

The Interstate Commerce Commission has postponed the effective date of its order banning trip leases for motor trucks for periods less than 30 days and restricting the computation of the compensation for the lease. Under the postponement, the trip-lease rules will be effective March 1, 1954.

Legislation to cancel the ICC's authority to regulate trip leasing was passed by the House and is pending in a Senate committee.

## PERSONNEL

### U.S.W.G.A. Action Delays

#### Formation of New Association

The board of directors of the U. S. Wholesale Grocers Association has decided that terms of a proposed consolidation with the National-American Wholesale Grocers Association were not in the best interest of U.S.W.G.A. members.

It has been reported to U.S.W.G.A. members that N.A.W.G.A. was unwilling to be committed to a policy of strong and active support of the Robinson-Patman Act and that some of its members actively favor amendments "to materially weaken section 2 (c), the brokerage provisions of the Act."

U.S.W.G.A. has appointed an action committee to pursue negotiations with N.A.W.G.A., with a view to achieving an agreement that will consolidate the two groups into a "truly united industry association."

### USDA Staff Organization

Lorenzo N. Hoopes of Denver, Colo., has been appointed executive assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture, succeeding D. K. Broadhead of San Marino, Calif., whose resignation was made necessary by the death of a business associate.

Mr. Hoopes has been eastern district manager of the Lucerne Milk Company and has been connected with agricultural marketing organizations for the last 20 years.

### Edwards Appointed in NPA

Walter A. Edwards of the Owens-Illinois Glass Company has been appointed to an interim post as special assistant to Charles A. Lewis, Director of the Containers and Packaging Division of the NPA.

Mr. Edwards is assistant to the vice president of Owens-Illinois, representing that company on all government-industry relations with respect to defense production, and is on loan to the government under a rotation system by which the services of experienced industry personnel are provided for the new business and defense mobilization programs. He will later assume broader responsibilities in the new Commerce Department organization that is to succeed NPA.



### Forthcoming Meetings

- September 27-30—National Association of Food Chains, Annual Meeting, Palmer House, Chicago
- October 2-6—American Meat Institute, Annual Meeting, Palmer House, Chicago
- October 15-17—Florida Canners Association, Annual Meeting, Casa Blanca Hotel, Miami Beach
- October 26—Texas Canners Association, Annual Convention, Casa de Palmas Hotel, McAllen
- October 26-27—National Pickle Packers Association, Annual Meeting, The Drake Hotel, Chicago
- November 2—Illinois Canners Association, Fall Meeting, Chicago
- November 6—Ozark Canners Association, Fall Meeting, Colonial Hotel, Springfield, Mo.
- November 9-10—Wisconsin Canners Association, 49th Annual Convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee
- November 9-10—Michigan Canners Association, Fall Meeting, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids
- November 9-11—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., Annual Meeting, New York City
- November 12-13—Iowa-Nebraska Canners Association, Annual Convention, Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines
- November 19-30—Indiana Canners Association, Annual Convention, French Lick Springs Hotel, French Lick Springs
- November 23-24—Pennsylvania Canners Association, 39th Annual Convention, Penn Harris Hotel, Harrisburg
- December 1—Tennessee-Kentucky Canners Association, Annual Meeting, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- December 2—Minnesota Canners Association, Annual Convention, St. Paul Hotel, St. Paul
- December 3-4—Tri-State Packers Association, Inc., 50th Annual Meeting, Haddon Hall, Atlantic City, N. J.
- December 10-11—New York State Canners and Freezers Association, Inc., 68th Annual Convention
- December 10-11—Ohio Canners Association, 46th Annual Convention, The Neil House, Columbus
- January 4-6—Northwest Canners Association, Annual Convention, Multnomah Hotel, Portland, Ore.
- January 7-8—Canners League of California, Annual Fruit and Vegetable Sample Cutting, Hotel Fairmont, San Francisco
- January 7-9—Illinois Canners Association and Illinois State Agricultural Experiment Station, Canners and Fieldmen's Short Course, University of Illinois, Urbana

### Marketing Orders Proposed

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to be presented to Congress next year. Present law prohibits marketing Agreements or Orders on canning crops, except olives and asparagus.

Mr. Morse said that from the "grass roots" survey have come several "general areas of agreement" that command attention.

"No single solution is appropriate for all commodities," he said, and continued:

"Restricted production is not the answer to 'surpluses', with the exception of tobacco and possibly cotton (nonfood crops), according to most studies and reports.

"The weight of opinion is that agricultural resources and productive ca-

capacity should be used—and used effectively.

"The destruction of food, holding land and equipment idle or in limited use, and prolonged delays in putting improved production and marketing practices into use and other such obstacles to the efficient use of agricultural resources—these are not in the long-time best interest of agriculture or the nation.

"The practical difficulties of restricting production, particularly in diversified areas, are generally recognized.

"However, restrictions on production are clearly indicated as necessary if price supports at a rigid high level are to be maintained. This principle is not accepted equally by producers of the various commodities."

Mr. Morse then reviewed varying proposals for support of the major crops, including flexible price supports, compensatory payments, two-price plans and multiple price systems, modernized parity, and increased exports of surplus farm products. Then he stated:

"Federal marketing Agreements and Orders should be more extensively used, accordingly to many suggestions received.

"Marketing Agreement experience on the West Coast covers over 20 years and appears to be generally successful. For example, there are 11 such federal agreements operating in California alone. Six cover fresh fruits, two dried fruits, two tree nuts, and one potatoes.

"Marketing Orders are used extensively in the Northeastern states and in other areas to put milk marketing on a more dependable basis.

"Some suggested improvements in federal marketing Agreements and Orders were:

"Include additional commodities, among them commodities for canning and freezing.

"Permit the use of Agreements and Orders for the regulation of type of containers and packs.

"Also, research and the assembly and dissemination of market information should be a function of marketing Agreements and Orders."

Later in the speech, Mr. Morse declared:

"The farmer will continue to be the master of his own economic fate. Through more than 26 years of farm, ranch, and plantation management experience, that took me into most of the states, I was thoroughly impressed with the fact that each farmer largely controls the extent of his profits—not the government. That is as it should be.

"Agricultural problems as seen from Washington have deepened my impression that whether a farmer succeeds or fails is primarily dependent upon him and his family.

"Government has major responsibility for sound national economic and farm programs. But within the favorable climate which a sound government creates, the degree of success of a farmer will continue to depend on his individual management and farming ability."

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